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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/690,307	10/20/2003	John S. Risch	12822-E (BA4-202)	6922
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WELLS ST. JOHN P.S. 601 W. FIRST AVENUE, SUITE 1300 SPOKANE, WA 99201			EXAMINER NGUYEN, CAO H	
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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/690,307

Applicant(s)

RISCH ET AL.

Examiner

Cao (Kevin) Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 June 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 8/5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Czerwinski et al. (US Patent No. 6,243,093).

Regarding claim 1, Czerwinski discloses a method of displaying correlations among information objects, the method comprising receiving an information collection including information objects [..objects using object thumbnails and may stimulate a three-dimensional plane; see col. 12, lines 38-45]; generating a visualization illustrating relationships between information objects and displaying visual information representing all information objects of the collection, the visualization being selected from a plurality of different available visualization types, wherein at least two of the visualization types can selectively be used simultaneously [..visually simulate a plane located and oriented in three-dimensional space, or other three-dimensional landscape on which the object thumbnails may be manipulated. The simulated plane or landscape may include visual landmarks for enhancing a user's spatial memory; see col. 9, lines 25-38]; and selectively displaying visual information for a subset of information

objects in response to a query [..query process is concerned with predetermined clusters or groupings based on the subject matter, keywords, or content of the objects; see col. 20, lines 15-35].

Regarding claim 2, Czerwinski discloses of displaying correlations among information objects in accordance further comprising selectively switching between visualization types so as to selectively display relationships within one information collection in multiple possible ways (see col. 13, lines 12-38).

Regarding claim 3, Czerwinski discloses a method of displaying correlations among information objects wherein at least three different visualization types are available (see col. 14, lines 33-65 and figures 3-4).

Regarding claim 4, Czerwinski discloses a method of displaying correlations among information objects wherein at least four different visualization types are available (see col. 22, lines 14-38).

Regarding claim 5, Czerwinski discloses a method of displaying correlations among information objects in accordance wherein at least five different visualization types are available (see col. 17, lines 3-63).

Regarding claim 6, Czerwinski discloses a method of displaying correlations among information objects, the method comprising receiving an information collection including information objects; and generating a visualization representing relationships between the objects, the vizualization being selected from at least six available visualization types including a type useful for demonstrating field/value pair co-occurrences (see col. 18, lines 8-44), a type

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useful for demonstrating free-text similarity, a type useful for demonstrating temporal relationships, a type useful for demonstrating parent-child relationships, a type useful for demonstrating network relationships, and a type useful for demonstrating geospatial relationships (see col. 22, lines 14-65).

Regarding claim 7, Czerwinski discloses a method of displaying correlations among information objects and further comprising selectively switching between visualization types so as to selectively display relationships within one information collection in multiple possible ways (see figure 14).

Regarding claim 8, Czerwinski discloses a method of displaying correlations among information objects further comprising generating the visualization from information objects residing in separate databases (see col. 25, lines 46-62).

Regarding claim 9, Czerwinski discloses a method of displaying correlations among information objects and further comprising generating the visualization from information objects of different types residing in separate databases (see col. 26, lines 9-32).

Regarding claim 10, Czerwinski discloses a method of displaying correlations among information objects and wherein two of the visualization types can be selectively displayed simultaneously (see col. 27, lines 25-45).

Regarding claim 11, Czerwinski discloses a method of displaying correlations among information objects, the method comprising receiving a query against a database; obtaining a query result set; and generating a visualization, selected from a plurality of available visualization types, representing the components of the result set, the visualization including

one of a plane and line to represent a data field, nodes representing data values, and links showing correlations among fields and values (see col. 12, lines 1-55).

Regarding claim 12, Czerwinski discloses a method of displaying correlations among information objects and further comprising displaying labels, showing field names and data values (see col. 15, lines 28-50).

Regarding claim 13, Czerwinski discloses a method of displaying correlations among information objects and further comprising using a plane for fields that are unordered, for the one of a plane and a line (see col. 16, lines 8-44).

Regarding claim 14, Czerwinski discloses a method of displaying correlations among information objects and further comprising using a line for fields that are ordered, for the one of a plane and a line (see col. 16, lines 45-65).

Regarding claim 15, Czerwinski discloses a method of displaying correlations among information objects wherein generating a visualization comprises displaying a lowermost plane that contains representations of information objects returned by the query and displaying at least one of a plane and a line above the lowermost plane that represent field members of the objects (see figures 22-26).

Regarding claim 16, Czerwinski discloses a method of displaying correlations among information objects and further comprising generating the visualization from information objects residing in separate databases (see figures 2-4).

Regarding claim 17, Czerwinski discloses a method of displaying correlations among information objects in accordance and further comprising generating the visualization from information objects of different types residing in separate databases (see col. 20, lines 15-65).

Regarding claim 18, Czerwinski discloses a method of displaying correlations among information objects in accordance with wherein a field value may be inspected by brushing over a node with a cursor (see figures 1-2).

Regarding claim 19, Czerwinski discloses wherein the visualization is contained in a dialog box and wherein a field value may be inspected by opening a separate dialog box, the separate dialog box being configured to show all of the field values in the result set for a plane (see col. 22, lines 13-38).

Regarding claim 20, Czerwinski discloses wherein the visualization is contained in a dialog box and wherein a field value may be inspected by opening a separate dialog box, the separate dialog box being configured to show all of the field values in the result set for a plane (see col. 26, lines 9-47).

Regarding claim 21, Czerwinski discloses wherein in response to a node being selected, at least one line is displayed that ties together all field and value pairs that are semantically associated with a pair represented by the selected node in combination with an associated at least one of a plane and a line (see figures 21A-21C).

Regarding claim 22, Czerwinski discloses when loaded in a computer, causes the computer, in operation, to: receive a query against a database; obtain a query result set; and generate a visualization, selected from a plurality of available visualization types, representing

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the components of the result set, the visualization including one of a plane and line to represent a data field, nodes representing data values, and links showing correlations among fields and values (see figures 17-18).

As claims 23-32 are analyzed as previously discussed with respect to claims 11-22 above.

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action.

Wong et al discloses [a unique visualization technique that provides multiple antecedent and support information.]

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cao (Kevin) Nguyen whose telephone number is (571)272-4053. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (571)272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.



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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Cao (Kevin) Nguyen  
Primary Examiner  
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08/27/07